GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1640
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
ACTION PLAN FOR HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has criticised the Government for taking uphighway development projects without adequate project preparation leading to delays and cost overruns;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any action plan to ensure proper completion of road projects within the stipulated period; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INVESTMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN TH MINITRIES OF PLANNING, STATISTICS & PROGRRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) Appraisal of a number of revised cost estimate proposals in respect of national highway projects indicated that inadequate pre-construction activities including weak project planning and formulation are amongst the main reasons for time and cost over-runs.

(b) & (c) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways have taken a number of stepsto ensure that projects are completed in stipulated period. These include project preparation of National Highway major works as per the detailed guidelines which have been revised and amplified, engagement of experienced consultants to formulate the projects and holding regular review meetings with the officers of State Public Works Department with a view to ascertainingbottlenecks, if any, and to take remedial measures for removal of such bottlenecks. The regional officers of the Ministry of Road Transport andHighways have also been directed to furnish monthly report to highlight the problems/ bottlenecks in the execution of the works so that remedial measures could be taken.